

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2006
CONFERENCE ROOM 391, THIRD FLOOR CITY HALL
2226 SANTA CLARA AVENUE - 7:00 PM**

CONVENE: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Huston, Commission Members Rosenberg and Wolfe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chair Lee, Commission Member Cervantes (Vice-Chair Lee was absent from Roll Call. She arrived at 7:40 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT: Doug Vu, Planner III, Erin Garcia, Acting Recording Secretary.

MINUTES:

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2006

M/S and unanimous to continue the Minutes of the August 23, 2006; 4-0-2.

Ayes: 3; Noes: 0; Absent: 2 (Lee, Cervantes); Motion carries.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

A. Bridgeside Public Art Proposal - Applicant: Regency Centers. (*Continued from the August 23, 2006 Regular meeting*).

At the Commission's last regular meeting on August 23, 2006, Bruce Qualls, the applicant representing Regency Centers presented the proposed public performance amphitheatre for Bridgeside Shopping Center. The proposal includes the construction of an outdoor amphitheatre that will be available free of charge to arts and performance groups. The trapezoid shaped stage located at the foot of the amphitheatre and will be approximately 55 feet wide and vary in depth from 20 to 25 feet. The glade area will be approximately 50 feet wide in front and angle towards the rear with a width of 100 feet. Since the August 23, 2006, the applicant has

Minutes of September 13, 2006
Special Public Art Commission
Meeting.

informed Staff that the proposed amphitheatre will also be equipped with a power outlet for staged performances.

At the last meeting, the Commission suggested the amphitheatre be used as part of their cultural requirements. The Commission requested the applicant submit a plan showing the details of amphitheatre more clearly. The Commission also requested additional grading, and additional trees to help buffer the noise from surrounding areas. The applicant has complied with the requests.

In response to Chair Huston's question regarding direct public access to the amphitheatre, Mr. Qualls stated that there are access points between the buildings in two locations and along the front side and back side of the retail area. Chair Huston expressed concerns with the success of the amphitheatre without any direct access.

Commissioner Wolfe stated that the developer would likely advertise the performances so the vendors would benefit from it. He acknowledged concerns whether or not it is ADA accessible.

Chair Huston shared some additional concerns. One was the nature and scale of the space, the second was the programming, and lastly whether the space would be utilized as a public area. Mr. Qualls agreed to submit an annual programming schedule to the Planning & Building Director for approval.

Deborah Owen and Mike Sheppard from the Frank Bette Center of Performing Arts were present and informed the Commission that from what she can tell by the plans, this will be a wonderful accommodation for community art, with plenty of options for programming. The onsite manager is responsible for scheduling all of the events. There will also be signage near the amphitheatre stating that this space is available with a contact number. Ms. Owen added that for the visual arts requirement, there could be a sculpture show, or an exhibit of a known artist. It could also be a story telling space.

There was one speaker slip. Chair Huston opened the public hearing.

Daniel Levy, 1926 Broadway, spoke in favor of this space. He would like to know if the owners would be providing all of the advertising for the different performances.

Chair Huston closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Wolfe had several points to bring up. The first concern was with the benches that are currently located on the stage area. He asked if they could they be moved adjacent to the path? The other concern was whether the seating area has adequate lighting.

Mr. Qualls informed the Commission that the Planning Board had approved the lighting requirements. There have been several Planning Board public hearings and discussions with staff regarding the lighting plan. The issue was that this area was not intended for nighttime use.

The residents and Planning Board were very clear that there was not to be a bleed into the surrounding areas. So in the applicant's preparation for the programs, organizers expect to shut things down around dusk and in the summer around 9:00 p.m.

Commissioner Wolfe inquired whether there were any public restrooms that are accessible to this site. Mr. Qualls responded that all restaurants have restrooms. Commissioner Wolfe asked if there could be a stipulation in the lease agreements that would state that during these events, people should be allowed to use the restrooms. Mr. Qualls responded that this is at the discretion of the retailers. He informed the Commission that the grocery store has public restrooms that are located in the front of the store.

Commissioner Wolfe was not in favor of the poplar trees near the lawn area.

Mr. Vu clarified the revised additional conditions related to programming, advertisement and modification to provide power.

Mr. Qualls agreed with the first two revised conditions. He will find out if he can modify the power due to the panels already in place and advise staff.

M/S and unanimous to accept the proposal as stated in the draft Resolution with the additional conditions of approval with the exception of the modification to the power. 4-0-1.

Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1(Cervantes); Motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Wolfe would like staff to provide a calendar of any upcoming projects that will come before them. Staff noted the request.

Chair Huston would like an update on the Summerhouse project.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Vu informed the Commission that the Regular meeting of September 27, 2006 has been canceled.

Minutes of September 13, 2006
Special Public Art Commission
Meeting.

Mr. Vu reminded the Commission that the mandatory ethics training requirement must be completed by January 2007.

ADJORNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectively submitted by:

Douglass Vu, Planner III
Planning and Building Department